

Females (presumed and ascertained; two specimens): Wing, 16.75-18.00 (17.37); tail, 7.40-8.40 (7.90); culmen, 2.30-2.35 (2.32); depth of bill through angle, .80; at base, .83-.88 (.85); tarsus, 2.60-2.72 (2.66); middle toe (with claw) 2.68-2.75 (2.71).

There is apparently no difference in plumage between the two species in the immature plumages, of which the National Museum collection possesses a good series in all stages; but they may be very readily distinguished by the size and shape of the bill, as pointed out above.

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF OYSTER-CATCHER FROM THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS.

BY ROBERT RIDGWAY.

Hæmatopus galapagensis, sp. nov.

SP. CHAR.—Somewhat similar to *H. palliatus* Temm., but differing as follows: Back, scapulars, and wings sooty black (as in *H. leucopus* Garn.), instead of grayish brown; shorter upper tail-coverts entirely black, and the longer ones barred or spotted with black at ends; under primary-coverts chiefly black; white of greater wing-coverts and secondaries much more restricted. Wing, 10.00; tail, 3.80-3.90; culmen, 3.12-3.42; depth of bill at thickest portion anterior to nostril, .50; tarsus, 2.12-2.20; middle toe, 1.65. (Type, No. 101,319, U. S. Nat. Mus.)

HABITAT. Chatham Island, Galapagos. (Three specimens, collected by Dr. Wm. H. Jones, U. S. N., Surgeon U. S. S. 'Wachusett'.)

PRELIMINARY DESCRIPTIONS OF SOME NEW SPECIES OF BIRDS FROM SOUTHERN MEXICO, IN THE COLLECTION OF THE MEXICAN GEOGRAPHICAL AND EXPLORING COMMISSION.

BY ROBERT RIDGWAY.

PUBLICATION of the annotated catalogue* of the beautiful and unique collection of birds made by the naturalists of the Mexican

*To be published in Vol IX, 'Proceedings' of the U.S. National Museum, with full descriptions and appropriate critical remarks. The author is indebted to the Director of the National Museum, for his kind permission to publish in advance these condensed diagnoses.

Geographical and Exploring Commission (Mr. Augustin Diaz, C. E., Director), having been unavoidably delayed, and there being no present prospect of its early appearance, the following brief diagnoses of the new species described therein are herewith presented. For the privilege of describing and naming these interesting new species, I am indebted to the courtesy of Mr. Fernando Ferrari-Perez, C. E., Chief of the Natural History Section of the Commission.

The type-specimens are all in the collection made by the Commission, and now in the National Museum of Mexico.

1. *Amphispiza ferrariperezi*, sp. nov.

SP. CHAR.—Similar to *A. quinquestriata* (Scl.), but rump brown instead of slate-gray, lesser wing-coverts cinnamon-rufous instead of slate-color, throat with a broad patch instead of stripe of white, black of breast forming a broad collar widest laterally, and sides light brown instead of plumbeous. *Male*: Wing, 2.70; tail, 3.30; culmen, .50; tarsus, .85; middle toe, .60. *Female*: Wing, 2.50, tail, 3.00.

HABITAT. Chietla, State of Puebla, Mexico.

2. *Pipilo submaculatus*, sp. nov.

SP. CHAR.—Resembling *P. maculatus* Swains., but the back without white streaks, the white terminal spots of middle and greater wing-coverts and lateral rectrices much reduced in size, and the rufous of the sides of the breast marked with sagittate spots of black. Wing (adult male), 3.30; tail, 3.70; culmen, .60; tarsus, 1.15; middle toe, .75.

HABITAT. Tezuítlan, State of Puebla.

3. *Pipilo complexus*, sp. nov.

SP. CHAR.—Similar to *P. macronyx* Swains., but decidedly smaller, the sides much paler rufous (almost buff), the throat with a white patch, and the occiput with a rufous patch. Wing (adult male), 3.60; tail, 3.90; culmen, .62; tarsus, 1.15; middle toe, .70.

HABITAT. Tezuítlan, State of Puebla.

4. *Anas diazi*, sp. nov.

SP. CHAR.—Most like *A. fulvigula*, nobis, but last row of wing-coverts with a distinct subterminal band of white, and secondaries with a broad terminal bar of the same; general color much less fulvous; cheeks streaked with dusky, and lower basal angle of upper mandible without black spot. *Male*: Wing, 10.00; tail, 4.00; culmen, 2.05; width of bill near end, .90; tarsus, 1.60; middle toe 1.95. *Female (immature)*: Wing, 8.90; tail, 3.80; culmen, 1.85; width of bill near end, .75.

HABITAT. Laguna del Rosario, Tlaxcala, and San Ysidro, Puebla.

5. *Philortyx personatus*, sp. nov.

SP. CHAR.—Differing from *P. fuscatus* Gould, in having the forehead, cheeks, and throat uniform black, instead of having these parts brown and white, respectively; bill light brown, instead of black (possibly darker in fully adult). Wing, 3.80; tail, 2.00; culmen, .42; tarsus, 1.00; middle toe, .92.

HABITAT. Chietla, State of Puebla.

DESCRIPTIONS OF TWO NEW SPECIES OF BIRDS
SUPPOSED TO BE FROM THE INTERIOR
OF VENEZUELA.

BY ROBERT RIDGWAY.

1. *Pyroderus masoni*, sp. nov.

SP. CHAR.—Most like *P. orenocensis* Lafr., but plumage much darker beneath, the throat and jugulum nearly uniform dark brownish red, the breast and abdomen dark brownish chestnut. (Type, No. 106,051, U. S. Nat. Mus.)

Dedicated to Professor Otis T. Mason, Curator of the Department of Ethnology, United States National Museum.

2. *Aulacorhamphus dimidiatus*, sp. nov.

SP. CHAR.—Similar to *A. atrogularis* (Sturm.), but with the bill very much shorter (culmen, 2.20-2.25), the gonys very little longer than the ramus of the lower mandible, instead of nearly twice as long, and the black stripe along edge of upper mandible much broader. (Type, No. 106,052, U. S. Nat. Mus.)

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF ELF OWL
FROM SOCORRO ISLAND, WESTERN MEXICO.

BY ROBERT RIDGWAY.

Micrathene graysoni, sp. nov.

SP. CHAR.—Similar to *M. whitneyi* (Cooper), but much browner, the plumage entirely without any superficial gray, and the light rusty tail-